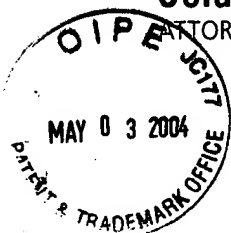




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May 3, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
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Art Unit 1644

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/017,524; Filed February 3, 1998
For: **HLA Binding Peptides and Their Uses**
Inventors: KUBO *et al.*
Our Ref: 2060.005000B/HCC/PAC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Fee Transmittal PTO/SB/17;
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1);
3. PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form; and
4. Return Postcard

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
May 3, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Helene C. Carlson
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 47,473

HCC/VSR
Enclosures